

REMARKS

Claims 9-15, 17-18, 29-35, 37-38, 49-53 and 56-61 were active and under consideration. By means of the present amendment, non-elected claims 1-6, 21-26 and 41-46 and rejected claims 9-15, 17 and 18 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

Claims 29 and 49 were objected to because of informalities. Applicants submit that such informalities have been corrected as requested by the Examiner.

Claims 9-15 and 17-18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention. Although Applicants disagree, said claims have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot.

Claims 9-13 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Ichimura et al., US Pat. No. 6,525,212. Although Applicants disagree, said claims have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that all the claims are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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